

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust in Church Hall, Kirkcudbright on Monday 4 April 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Mr Andrew Ward
Mr David McHale
Ms Vicky Wright
Mr Gordon Cowan
Ms Janet Gibson
Mr Alan Ross
Mr John Johnson
Ms Avive Asbridge
Mr Rob Asbridge
Mr Andy Campbell
Ms Catherine McWilliam

Minute Secretary: Ms Deborah Craig

Apologies: Mr Colin MacLaine
Mr Brian Thomson
Mr John Blaikie
Mr Alex Kinnell
Mrs Lesley Garbutt

- 1. Apologies** **Action**

Mr McHale welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust and gave the floor over to Catherine McWilliam, Member's Officer of the Development Trust Association. Ms McWilliam discussed the benefits of becoming a member of the Development Trust for a Community. The aim, she said, was for every community to have a Development Trust, enabling a community to strengthen through growth. The Kirkcudbright Development Trust, she said, ticked all the boxes but it was important, she stressed, to build up membership and the best way to do this was by looking for opportunities that would prove successful for the local community.

Mr Cowan then asked Ms McWilliam if she had any advice regarding the Johnston School. It was, he continued, an asset the Trust was looking to acquire from Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Ms McWilliam said that she would get Nicola Donald to contact the Trust regarding this. Ms McWilliam finished her talk by suggesting the Trust visit other examples of Development Trusts and said that she would provide Andrew Ward with the details. Mr McHale then thanked Ms McWilliam for attending and she left the meeting at 7.45pm
- 2. Minutes of the meeting – 7 March 2016**

Proposed by Mr Johnson and seconded by Ms Asbridge.
- 3. Matters Arising**

There were none.

4. **Bank Account:** Mr Johnson reported that the bank account was now active but the Trust had still to receive a paying in and cheque book. These were expected shortly. He also reported that the current balance £3986.65 which was ring-fenced for Youth Drop-In.
5. **Membership forms:** Mr McHale reported that some of the membership forms said Kirkcudbright and DG6. It was agreed that they should state DG6 and Mr Ward agreed to amend the forms. It was then agreed that Ms Craig compile a list and send membership forms out. Ms Craig also agreed to email Janet Gibson a membership form.

6. **Project Worker Update**

Climate Challenge Fund Mr Ward reported that there had been a successful application and the Trust had been awarded £80,000. Adverts for the two Project Workers will be published in the Galloway News on Thursday (7th April). Mr Ward also reported that he had asked permission from the council to run the project from the grounds of the Johnston School.

Mr McHale asked if there was anywhere else the project could go.

Mr Ward replied that the Johnston School would be the best site to which everyone agreed. It was also agreed that Mr Ward write to the Council and ask if it would consider allowing the Trust to run the project from inside the school.

Mr McHale offered to help Mr Ward with the interview process.

Johnston School Mr Ward reported that work on the business plan had started and Mr Ward has had several conversations with potential clients. He reported that the **estimated** running costs for the school would be £37,000 per year. With 13 keys spaces it was agreed that an annual rent of £4000 per unit would be feasible. He also reported that he had a meeting with a local childcare centre and the Summer Festivities group and both organisations were keen to take spaces within the school. Ms Wright suggested that the cycling project tie in with the Academy as there was a shortage of projects involving additional needs children.

Mr Ward agreed that it would be a good idea but the main hurdle would be getting specialist staff and ultimately that side of the project would need to come from the Education Department.

Mr McHale then asked that income from the Library be included in the business plan Mr Asbridge then asked about the possibility of incorporating a bunkhouse.

Mr Ward said that he had spoken to Mr MacLaine about this and it was something that Kirkcudbright could definitely accommodate. He also pointed out that it would be a regular and steady source of income.

Mr Campbell pointed out that CrossRoads and Food Train had both lost offices in Kirkcudbright and may look to move back into the town while Ms Gibson suggested a cinema would be a good additional.

Ms Wright suggested an indoor football pitch and Fairy Bodmother –a fitness group. Mr Ward thanked everyone for their ideas and also asked that if there were any local businesses looking for premises they would be most welcome.

Mr Ward also hoped that there would be an article in The Galloway News regarding the questionnaire about the Johnston School before it was sent out.

Other Project News

Ian Barr. The next meeting with Ian Barr for the “Kirkcudbright International Festival” is due to take place 14th April.

Silvercraigs Caravan site: Mr Ward reported that he had a provisional meeting booked with Mr Wyper and Mr Seton on 11th April.

Funding: Mr Johnson reported that there was a provisional meeting with John Enos regarding Common Good Funding.

8. **Johnston School Questionnaire:** The questionnaire was in the process of being printed (2000 in total) and there will be five staff coming from the Creetown Initiative to help with the delivery of the leaflets on the 25th. Mr McHale suggested that another 10 people would be need from Kirkcudbright.

AOB Mr Campbell reported that Mr David Devereux would like to be involved with the development of a bike route and Mr Cowan said that he and Mr Ross would bring the Rotary Club up to date with all the latest developments. Mr Cowan also asked if Mr Ward would look into tying the Cycling Scheme in with Cycle Sportif, which Mr Ward agreed to do.

There being no other business, Mr McHale thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting ended at 8.40pm.